The CSUMB Campus Transportation System: Analysis and Encouragement of Alternative Transportation Options

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Two classes involved

- Infrastructure Systems, spring Sustainability Systems, fall

Define and describe a system.
- Give examples of systems in your everyday life.
- State and describe principles of system function.
- Model system dynamics.
- Complete a relevant project that involves systems modeling.

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What is the Sustainable City Year Program?

A partnership between universities and government entities where multiple class projects across campus are developed based on one entity’s sustainability-related needs. While this is not a part of the CALL grant, both classes participated in both CALL and SCYP for both an on-campus and off-campus lab experience.

Schools across the country (currently approximately 30) and internationally follow this model. They are a part of the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network (EPIC-N).

Both classes during the 2015-2016 academic year participated in both programs!

2015-2016 Campus Partnership:
CSUMB Campus Planning Department
Regional governing entity:
The City of Salinas, Dept. of Public Works

CSYP Program Fall 2015 - Spring 2016
- "Attractiveness" of driving
- Speed of traffic
- Bike lane availability and its effects on number of bikers
- Safety of pedestrians
- Time to cross streets
- Effects of bus only lane
- Lighting, crosswalk, and sidewalk conditions
- Survey of local business and regional community college reaction to road diet.

Parking and Driving
- How do commuters use parking lots?
- How are the most impacted localized?
- Are students from a nearby residence hall using their cars to get around campus?
- Car counts (both via video and standard).

Biking
- Which bicycle counters would be the best for the campus to purchase?
- What would be the best locations to place bicycle counters?
- Are there any on-campus perceptions of sustainable transportation and biking?
- Which policies and regulations would tend to discourage driving and encourage other forms of transportation?
- Where are the bike racks on campus and how fully used are they?
- During rush hours, how many pedestrians and bikers cross some busy intersections near the campus?

A survey of bike rack locations on the CSUMB campus

The SCYP program continues and classes from across campus participate with the chosen city partner, including the two classes presented here.

A new capstone class for Environmental Studies students is now underway which employs both CALL and SCYP-based projects each fall.

What next?

EcoCounter bike counter selected by class and Campus Planning over the ZAP bike counter. It will be installed December, 2016.

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In 2015, the entire Systems class fills a city bus to capacity to visit the Salinas field site.

Both classes involve a project and this show Campus as a Living Lab and Sustainable City Year Program become a part of the picture.

What is the Campus as a Living Lab Program?

The Campus as a Living Lab Grant Program provides funds for teams of faculty and facilities staff to develop or redesign a course that embeds elements of sustainability into opportunities for learning using the campus physical plant.

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The author and several leaders of the EPIC-N national program at the 2016 EPIC-N yearly conference at San Diego State University.

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